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CHARACTERISTICS FOR INJURIES AND ILLNESSES REQUIRING DAYS AWAY FROM WORK IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY, WASHINGTON, DC 2010

Washington – The District of Columbia’s Annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for 2010 showed that there were 2,980 work-related injury and illness cases reported in the private industry that required days away from work. Sprains and strains accounted for approximately 33 percent of these cases and was the leading type of injury or illness. Service occupations had the most injury and illness days away from work cases and made up 1,510 or 51 percent of the cases; followed by professional and related occupations with 430 or 14 percent of the cases. (See Chart 1)

Case Characteristic Highlights

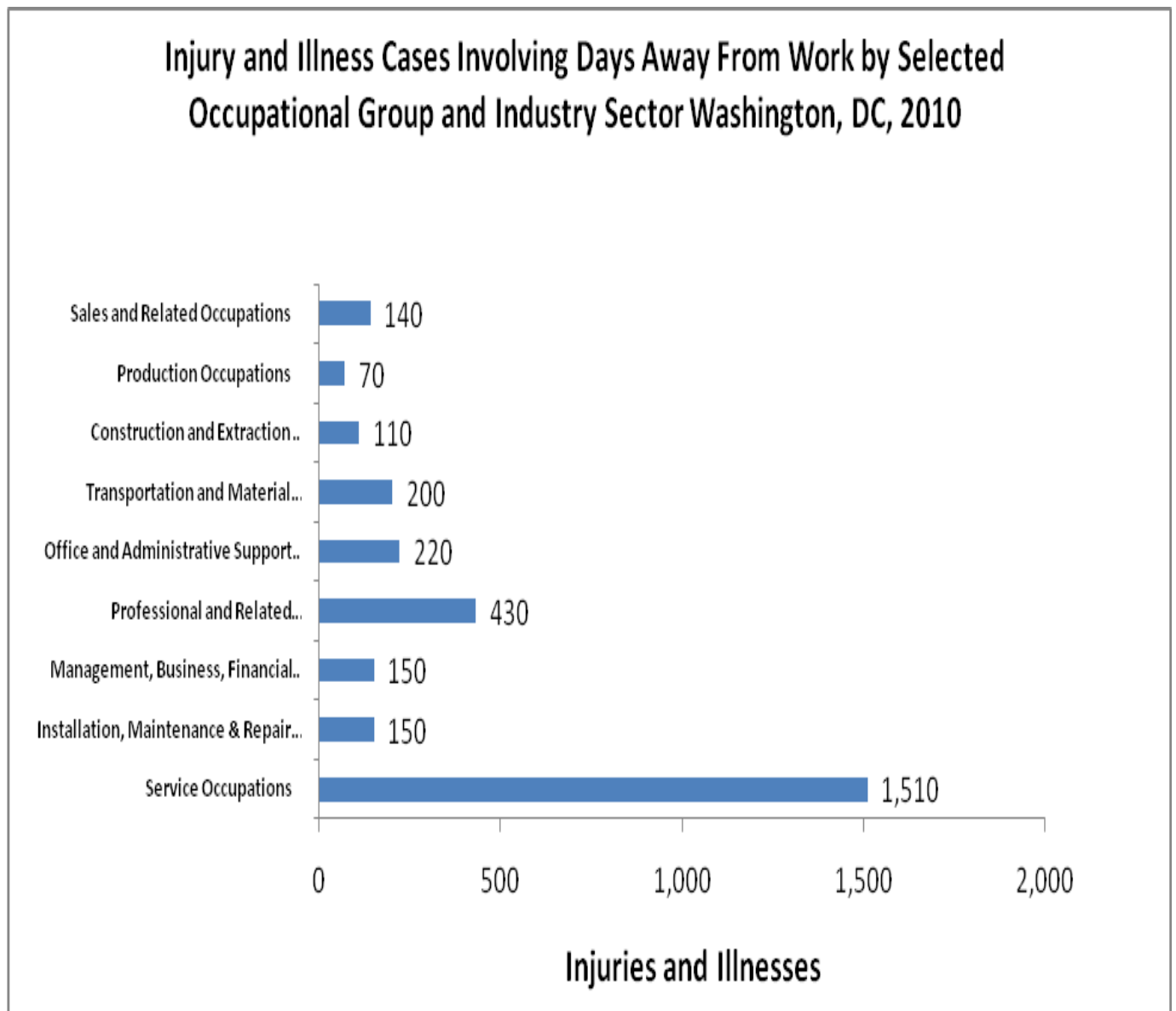
- The leading nature of the work-related injury or illness cases involving days away from work was sprains and strains (990 cases); other significant causes were soreness and pain (390), bruises and contusions (370) cases and cuts and lacerations (250 cases).
- The part of the body that was most frequently affected by injuries and illnesses was the trunk (850), which includes the back and shoulder, which accounted for 29 percent of all days away from work cases. Lower extremities, including the knee, ankle, foot and toe, accounted for 26 percent while upper extremities, including arm, wrist, hand, and finger, accounted for 23 percent of all days away from work cases.
- Floor and ground surfaces accounted for 28 percent of all sources of injury and illness cases.
- Cases involving contact with an object or equipment accounted for 740, the majority of these were cases involving being struck by an object which accounted for 490 cases. The next largest event categories involved cases with falls on the same level and overexertion which accounted for 580 cases each.

Demographic Highlights

- Fifty-four percent of the occupational injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work involved women (1,620 cases).
- Workers in the age range of 45-54 years accounted for 27 percent or 810 cases.
- Forty-seven percent of the occupational injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work involved Black or African American workers (1,400).

- Employees with a length of service with their employer from one to five years or more accounted for 2,330 of the injuries and illnesses.
- Of the injuries and illnesses with days away from work that reported the time of incident, the hours from 8:01 AM to 12:00 PM accounted for 890 incidents.
- Of the injuries and illnesses with days away from work that reported hours on the job before the event occurred, employees on the job for two to four hours made up 700 cases.
- Tuesday (600 cases) and Thursday (540 cases) were the days of the week when most of the injuries and illnesses involving days away from work occurred.

Chart I



Additional Statewide Information

For detailed statistical tables on case and demographic data from the Washington, DC Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for 2010, go to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics website: <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshstate.htm#DC>. In addition, any information can be requested by contacting Dr. Kimberley A. Turner at: (202) 442-9010 or via e-mail at: TurnerK@states.bls.gov.

Technical Notes

The Washington, DC Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses was conducted by the D.C. Department of Health in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Beginning with 2009 data, the Occupational Safety Health Statistics program began classifying industry using the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2007). Industry data from 2003 to 2008 were classified using the NAICS 2002. NAICS 2007 includes revisions across several sectors. The most significant revisions are in the information sector, particularly within telecommunications. For more information, go to <http://www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm>.

For technical information about and definitions for the CFOI program, please go to the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS web site here: http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch9_a1.htm.